

Abstract

5 A system and method are disclosed for facilitating access to a plurality of
certificate-related and other services including certificate validation. A seller is provided
with digital signature messaging software for accessing these services. Two preferred
implementations are disclosed for integrating a seller's existing Web server and
applications with this software. The first preferred implementation is referred to as
"passive integration" because it requires little or no modification to a seller's existing e-
commerce Web application. In this first implementation, the seller's Web site is preferably
10 provided with five additional components: a Web filter for redirecting HTTP requests, a
second Web server for parsing the redirected HTTP requests, a servlet that runs
applications based on the requested URL, a filter engine that identifies pages from a buyer
that require the buyer's signature as well as pages that require access to system services,
and a bank interface that receives requests to access system services from the filter engine,
15 and processes those requests. The second preferred implementation is referred to as "active
integration" because it requires the seller to rewrite code of its Web applications to provide
the functionality necessary to access system services. In active integration, the seller's Web
site is preferably provided with the bank interface described above but the functionality
provided by the other digital signature messaging software components is instead provided
20 by modifying directly the seller's Web application.

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